

Appl. No. 10/016,532  
Response dated March 18, 2004  
Reply to Office Action dated December 18, 2003

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend the Abstract (page 23, lines 2-21) as follows:

~~The present invention is directed to a gastrostomy device comprising: A~~  
~~gastrostomy device includes a tubular portion defining a longitudinal axis; and an~~  
~~internal bolster having a radial wing secured to the tubular portion; the internal bolster~~  
~~being flexible to permit. The internal bolster is flexible and permits~~ elastic deformation  
~~between a first orientation generally aligned with the longitudinal axis; with the wing~~  
~~wrapped into a generally cylindrical configuration and a second orientation with the wing~~  
~~unfurled and extending generally transverse to the tubular portion longitudinal axis and~~  
~~a. A constraining member encasing encases the internal bolster to retain the internal~~  
~~bolster in the first orientation; with the wing wrapped into the generally cylindrical~~  
~~configuration; and to cover at least a major portion of the wrapped wing; wherein the~~  
~~removal. Removal of the casing permits the internal bolster to move from the first~~  
~~orientation to the second orientation. The internal bolster may be deployed by the use~~  
~~of a ripcord to tear through the wall of the capsule, freeing the internal bolster of the~~  
~~gastrostomy device into the patient's stomach and deploying the internal bolster to a the~~  
~~second orientation with the wing unfurled and extending generally transverse to said~~  
~~tubular portion longitudinal axis. Alternatively, the internal bolster may be deployed by~~  
~~the constraining member being dissolved by the patient's bodily fluids located inside the~~  
~~patient's stomach.~~

Please add the following paragraph at page 6, line 6:

FIG. 12 illustrates the gastrostomy feeding device having a double loop ripcord arrangement according to an aspect of the present invention.